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Klosque No. 10, Boulevard des Capucines. It our triends who favor us with manuscripts for publication wish to have rejected articles returned, they

must in all cases send stamps for that purpose.

A few words addressed to the Senate by the Hon. CUSHMAN K. DAVIS, in the course of his argument in favor of his free trade amendment to the Puerto Rico bill, disposed of any very serious objection to the bill which he opposed. We refer to the passage of Senator Davis's speech in which he said that rather than insist upon a tariff which must expire in two years, like that provided by the bill as it now lies in the Senate, It will be better to let the existing condi-

THE SUN believes, with Senator DAVES and President McKINLEY, that there should be free trade between the United States and Puerto Rico. There can scarcely be a valid argument against the proposition that the existing tariff can properly continue until the Legislative Assembly of Puerto Rico, for instance, notifies the President that having provided for raising revenue in the island, the tariff can be abolished, and the President so orders. This plan would be in harmony with Senator Davis's idea of what may be proper in the case.

But the Puerto Rico bill with the Foraker amendments, does better than that.

It reduces the tariff to 15 per cent. of its present rates, and then practically confers upon the Legislature of Puerto Rico the right to remove it utterly.

Between the measures for immediate free trade, as urged by certain Republican Senators, and the nominal and temporary tariff provided by the existing bill, there is no difference in principle. This being so, it would be better for poverty-stricken and stagnant Puerto Rico that the present bill should be passed upon the day appointed for the vote, Tuesday, than that a measure of absolute free trade should be agreed upon after the wrangling and delay of another

## How Long Will the Door Be Open?

From the diplomatic correspondence sent on Tuesday to the House of Representatives, it is evident that all the other nations interested in China have assented readily to the request made by our Government that equal rights of trade and navigation shall be assured to the citizens or subjects of all the great maritime Powers in such sections of the Chinese territory as are now. or may be hereafter, leased or otherwise acquired by any of them. The assent of each of the Powers was conditioned upon the acceptance of the agreement by every other, but each of the Powers has been been informed that, the condition precedent having been satisfied, its assent to the agreement is regarded by our Government as definite and final.

Let us inquire what will be the immediate and direct outcome of the agreement on the one hand and the ultimate and inect effect on the other.

The provisions of the agreement are threefold, relating respectively to the duties leviable upon imports, to harbor dues, and to railroad charges. Each of the parties says that it will in nowise interfere with any treaty rights or with any vested interest within any so-called "sphere of interest," or leased territory it may have politics in the attempt to bring the subject of the time being shall apply to all merchandise shipped to all such ports as are within such "spheres of interest" (unless they be "free ports"), no matter to what nationality such merchandise may belong. and that duties so leviable shall be collected by the Chinese Government. Each power further says that it will levy no higher harbor dues on vessels of another nationality frequenting any port in such "sphere" than shall be levied on vessels of its own nationality; and no higher railroad charges over lines built, controlled or operated within its "sphere" on merchandise belonging to citizens or subjects of other nationalities transported through such 'sphere" than shall be levied on similar merchandise belonging to its own nationality transported over equal distances.

It is manifest that, so long as this arrangement is adhered to, we shall have lost nothing by the partial dismemberment to which the Middle Kingdom has been already subjected, but that, on the contrary, our treaty rights will remain unimpaired in those sections of territory which have been already leased to Russia, Germany, Great Britain and France, or which may be leased hereafter to these or other parties to the agreement. For the present, at all events, our commercial rights in China are recognized.

How long will the agreement last? It is certain that the equality of treatment contemplated by the compact is diametrically counter to the protectionist principle which has been hitherto enforced in the colonies | Morningside Park. The natural formation and dependencies of Russia, Germany and France. From the viewpoint of those countries colonies are scarcely worth acquiring, unless in them can be enforced | demn the land for the new park have been a rigorous discrimination in favor of their sitting for several years, and their work is own citizens or subjects. We may take for now nearly completed, and the land congranted, therefore, that the promises above | demned will probably cost the city about recited would never be made unless the \$2,000,000. three Powers named had feared that, by refusing them, they might precipi- tractive, and from its upper terraces broad tate a conflict for which they are and extensive views will be obtained lookat present unprepared. Such being ing to the north and east. There are no the circumstances under which it was other parks in the neighborhood and the made, we may aver with confidence that wisdom of having secured a place to be the agreement will last so long as Russia. kept green and open to the people of this France and Germany consider it inexpedi- locality is beyond question. ent to provoke a conflict in the Far East. A change of opinion upon this point seems | practically destroy the new park by cutting | get well to windward of that old bebarnacled far distant, for, although the German Navy right through its centre a street one thing. Once more we will see the "Shamrock a corps of Russian scouts had captured a wagon is likely to be augmented signally in the hundred feet in width. This monstrous course of a few years, the sea power of the proposition is contained in a bill entitled United States and Japan will also be in- "An Act for extending, widening and creased, and there is, upon the whole, no | changing the grade of West 135th street in reason to suppose that the three powers the city of New York," and known as interested in the policy of the "Open Door" | Senate Bill 925, introduced by Senator will lose their present preponderance in the FORD, whose public usefulness is somewhat

of the twentieth century. by procuring the assent of Russia, Germany | The street is to be an open cut with retain- pollywos. There is plenty of room for novelty | side of that river.

and France to an absolute equality of com- ing walls along said cut, and arches and mercial privileges within their "spheres of bridges of stone or iron or steel shall interest," there is taken from those Powers | be constructed at St. Nicholas terrace and the strongest motive for an enlargement of | Convent avenue across the open cut, and those "spheres." China gains an oppor- | bonds to pay for this work to the amount tunity to reorganize her fiscal, military and of a quarter million dollars are to be issued naval system, and thus to make herself a by the Comptroller. factor in the future defence of her territorial integrity. It is for the benefit of the United States, Japan and England that such reorganization should be promoted.

Mr. McKinley's Four Glasses of Wine.

There have been few occupants of the White House in recent years who have not encountered in one form or another the zealotry which gave a curious exhibition of itself at the Methodist Conference in Wilmington last Tuesday. Even the late RUTHERPORD B. HAYES did not entirely escape, although he deferred so far to the notions of the regulators of other people's conduct that water used to flow like champagne, to use the picturesque language of the Hon. WILLIAM M. EVARTS, at the State banquets he gave to the astonished members of the Diplomatic Corps. Notwithstanding his almost abject submission to the demands of teetotalism, poor Mr. HAYES was more than once accused, if we remember rightly, of putting sherry into his sauces, and rum into his official Roman punch.

At the Wilmington Conference resolu tions were introduced denouncing President Mckinney for "tippling before the young and old of the nation." This extra ordinary charge is said to have been based on the testimony of one SAMUEL DICKIE, who had declared to a member of the committee reporting the resolutions that he watched the President at a public dinner in St. Louis and saw him taste "four different kinds of wine." The Rev. RALPH T. Coursey also informed the Conference that on June 9, 1899, at Chicago, Mr. McKINLEY drank wine.

The resolutions reported by the temperance committee were as severe as fanatical indignation could make them:

"Whereas. We have learned with humiliation and shame that our Methodist Episcopal President has seen fit, in the exercise of his personal liberty, to so far ignore the public good and his obligation to his Church as to indulge in the use of intoxicating bever ages on several public occasions, thereby setting a pernicious example to the men in high places in our land, who were waiting to see him exemplify the teachings of his Church ; and

"Whereas, Such action by a Methodist in such high position will naturally be quoted as the attitude of our Church, and will influence the men and boys of our land accordingly: for if the light which has been in us on this question becomes darkness, how great will be that darkness; therefore, be it

" Resoired, That we condemn this breach of our discipline and Methodist propriety upon the part of our Methodist brother, President MCKINLEY, in setting the example of tippling before the young and old of

It does not appear that the well-meaning bigots of the Wilmington Conference took ordinary precautions to insure themselves against the sin of bearing false witness. They seem to have grasped eagerly at hearsay reports, and they were satisfied of the alleged truthfulness of a person who confessed that he had played the part of a spy at a dinner where Mr. McKINLEY was a guest. So they hastened to draft a resolution denouncing, in their peculiar lingo, the President of the United States as a backslider and a "tippler."

The same men in the Conference, including some ministers who are Prohibitionists in notified of such general acceptance, and has politics, made themselves heard at once in opposition to the foregoing resolutions. It was pointed out that the statement that Mr. McKINLEY drank four kinds of wine at the dinner in question had been denied by the ent urges has been in progress for Epworth Herald, a temperance newspaper; that even if the President were guilty of sarr of Philadelphia, the wife of the Presiference to rebuke and discipline him than to the Methodists of Delaware; that it was unwarranted presumption for this Conference to inquire into the Methodism or personal habits of the President of the United States; and, finally, that there was a strongly suspicious flavor of hostile in China, and that the Chinese treaty tariff up at all. Indeed, the Rev. Dr. Compton, the chairman of the committee on resolutions, admitted that the attack on the

President originated, so far as he was conperned, in political motives. Brother Comp-TON said : President MCKINLRY. I tried to defeat him four years ago by my vote, and I will doubly try the next ime now that he has openly defled one of the most stringent laws of the discipline. I told Dr. ADAMS that I not only wanted to assist in his defeat, but I want this Conference and the whole Methodist Church to assist. If we are not watchful, this skilled politi cian will drive into the Presidential chair again holding the reins high, and with one foot on the Methodist doctrine and the other on the Brewers' As-

This open confession of the fact that the Wilmington Conference was being used for political purposes by those personally opposed to Mr. McKinley's reflection seems to have disgusted even the Prohibitionists present. After a bitter debate the resolutions were rejected by a vote of 69 to 47, and thus a representative assembly of a great religious denomination escaped a scandal of narrow spite and hypocrisy.

sociation. We want no such man."

## To Destroy St. Nicholas Park.

The new St. Nicholas Park, laid out under the provisions of an act passed by the Legislature in 1894, runs along St. Nicholas avenue from 130th street on the south to 141st street on the north, and is bounded on the west by St. Nicholas terrace.

The park is mostly a side hill, narrow and in general character is similar to that of of the ground is scarcely susceptible of other treatment than to make it park.

The Commissioners of Appraisal to con-

The new park will be picturesque and at-

But it is now deliberately proposed to waters of the Far East during the first half | injured by a tendency to father objectionable bills. The bill proposes to extend the Meanwhile, it is evident that an indirect present 135th street one hundred feet result of the agreement may be to give wide from St. Nicholas avenue on the China breathing time and to arrest tempo-east to Amsterdam avenue on the west so

This bill is absurd and should be killed at once. There is no need of the proposed street and its construction will mean the practical ruln of the new park. The open cut would cut the park in two, and would cause a grievous and unnecessary injury to its pecultar beauty.

One Hundred and Thirty-fifth street to the width of one hundred feet is now open and graded from St. Nicholas avenue east to the Harlem River and from Amsterdam avenue west to Riverside avenue. Between St. Nicholas terrace and Amsterdam avenue it is sixty feet wide, and through the new park there is a pathway for travellers on foot forty feet wide and in piece. open public use. The present means of crossing the park are sufficient, and such only as the nature of the ground will permit. There is very little travel from east to west at this point, because the greater part of the land on the plateau known as "Convent Hill" west of the terrace is occupied by institutions, and no owner west of the terrace desires any greater facilities.

But in addition to the destruction of the park which would be caused by the cutting through of the street, the property on St. Nicholas terrace extending to Amsterdam avenue on the west would be terribly injured, because the new street at the intersection of St. Nicholas terrace would be sixty feet below the grade of the terrace, and the lots along the street would be from ten to sixty feet above the grade of the new street, and owing to the amount of rock on these lots, it would cost more to improve them than they are worth.

Who is at the back of this bill has not been developed, but it is certain that no good purpose can be served by its passage.

### For Our Own.

We give place to the subjoined communieation in the hope that it will be generally understood and appreciated at its worth :

"TO THE BUITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: I notice in THE SUN of March 27 that there is a movement on foot to raise a fund of a million dollars for the Boer sidows and orphans. I know there is already a society for the relief of the Cuban widows and orpnans, at I have yet to hear of such an organization for the relief of the widows and orphans of our own brave soldiers.

My notice was called recently to the case of the widow of a distinguished officer of our late war, who is now competled to sell her husband's clothing in order to buy her daily bread.

To the Boer widows and orphans the majority of Americans, among whom upon this question THE SUN counts itself, will be glad to see all possible aid and comfort given. Of course, there can be no objection in this country to the giving of money on the part of any one who so desires to aid the British sufferers from the South African war. But there is ample opportunity for the use of surplus funds among us in aiding the direct and indirect sufferers belonging to the armies of

the United States. There was a striking illustration of what can be done by American generosity begotten of patriotism in the case of the fund subscribed for the widow of Gen. LAWTON. The widow of Gen. HENRY is still in need; and there are others.

A movement such as our correspondsome time under the direction of Mrs. Casof subscriptions in our soldiers' behalf, or it can be extended so as to cover the

A Government School of Diplomacy.

Senator ALDRICH is responsible for a bill which looks to the establishment of a new Government school, analogous to West Point and Annapolis, for the education of young men and women for the diplomatic, consular and civil service of the United States. Appointments to the school are to be made by the President, some by his own selection from the country at large, others on the recommendation of Senators and Representatives, as is now the case with or the Naval Academy. The school is to

be at or near Washington. While the Aldrich bill is merely a presion of seven to mature the plan of the new institution and report to Congress at the bilities and raises at least two important

If it is a desirable thing to establish a Diplomatic Academy, where the principles, precedents, practices and professional and social arts of the diplomats are to be imparted systematically to the student, why civil service? The training in a diplomatic fessional; there may be reasons for the establishment of such a course which do not apply to the other part of the project. It the usefulness of the Diplomatic Academy general school of preparation for any other

branch of the civil service. In the second place, if the Government is going to provide at its own expense a lib- with the 750 from Cape Town and 450 from eral scientific education in diplomacy, why | Port Elizabeth to Bloemfontein. The Boer should the maximum age of the cadets be main position at Kroonstad is about fixed, as by the Aldrich bill, at twenty-five equidistant from Bethlehem and Smallyears? Would not the public interests gain | deel to the southeast and southwest, and tremendously if the privileges of the insti- by the railway to Viersiontein to the northtution were open, when necessary, even to intending Ambassadors?

Sir Thomas Lipton's decision to send two vachts to Sandy Hook this summer and, after trial races, to select the one with which he will the Vet and the Vaal is peculiarly adapted to try to "lift the cup," comes to us like the glo- defensive operations, being hilly and broken, rious notes of the first frogs of spring. There | and, with the fighting experience which they will be no danger of the scheme's running on have now gained, the Boers should be able to the rocks of the Deed of Gift. A good American | make the British advance a tedious and costly breeze will favor Sir Thomas and enable him to affair. so green." but in an altered form, improved or and ten mules from the British while out on a spoiled, as the case may be. And here we have an interesting problem. Some of our experts | River in Natal is curious and interesting as an hold that she was too fat; others insist that she was too lean. Her defeat by a very much leaner boat seems to favor the view of the antifat philosophers. FIFE is to give her longer ends, which, of course, means easier lines. Bay to help the republics is probably exagger-Such alterations certainly will improve her appearance; but whether they will give her more speed or not can only be known after a trial. It is to be hoped, at all events, that the new British cup hunter which WATSON will design | eight battalions in all, to the Gien, south of the

in naval architecture, and in the designing of racing yachts it might possibly be well to attend a little more to lines and a little less to lead, although we intend to raise no opposition to dropping the keel of our boat still another

Another good man has a bad attack of etopoditis. Attorney-General Crow of Missouri, a stern foe of corporations, complains of 'political corporate assassination, corporate highwaymen and hired political tools lying in ambush behind the phalanx of combines and Trusts and firing" at him. He notifies the people that corporate interests are trying to prevent his renomination. Do combines and Trusts and corporations have power in Demoeratic conventions? Do the monsters dare to show themselves among the monster hunters? O. MAMMON, MAMMON!

The Hon. JOHN JACOB LENTZ continues to live upon Tabasco sauce and files. His talents are wasted in Congress. He is a museum

The Hon. GEORGE PEABODY WETMORE of Rhode Island is guilty of being well off and therefore he is prodded occasionally by the Bryanites. Besides, he doesn't make speeches and the Bryanite notion is that a public man cannot be useful if he ever shuts up. As a matter of fact, Mr. WETMORE was Governor o Rhode Island from 1885 to 1887. No doubt ne would have been elected Senator by popular vote had the Constitution prescribed that Senators should so be elected. The Bryanites have no share in the Jeffersonian idea of a representative government. Their demand for the popular election of Senators and for the initiative and referendum shows that sufficiently.

According to a despatch to the New Or eans Times-Democrat from Meridian, Miss., the Southern farmer is in various sorts o trouble. The price paid by the oil mills for cottonseed has been so high-that is, \$18 or \$20 a ton-that the farmer has deprived himself of this customary fertilizer by selling it. and he has been obliged to buy commercial fertilizer at \$2 or \$3 a ton less. But there is other trouble. The Southern industry is so booming in its lumber mills, railroads, mines. and other occupations, that it is difficult to get labor to work the farms, and so a great cotton erop cannot be looked for. We are sorry for the Southern farmer, but

assure him that all will be well that ends well.

Col. Moses Columbus Wetmore of St Louis, the chewing tobacco man and Democratic chief, who fights Trusts by selling out to them at big prices and then starting another plant, is making political predictions with his habitual conservatism. He is sure that BRYAN will be elected by "the biggest majority ever accorded to any candidate since there have been candidates," and that the Democratic National Convention will be "the grandest assembly of intellect that ever gathered under the sky." If the grandest assembly of intellects ! loes its duty. Col. Moses WETMORE will be its | candidate for Vice-President. He knows how to spear the Octopus.

Col. John Chinn of the Kentucky Peace Society is about to adorn the lecture platform. His picturesque vocabulary and explosiv quence ought to bring him many hearers; and his story of the Kentucky troubles can hardly fail to be a fine piece of romantic narrative. But he should dramatize himself. In melodrama the Colonel would be great.

We observe with satisfaction that Col. PEELER is trying to get the nomination for Sheriff of Bares county, Missouri.

## IN SOUTH AFRICA.

The despatch to the London Times from Bloemfontein, dated Wednesday, which appears in THE SUN telegrams of last night from expect an early general advance, has very much the air of an official communication by "tippling," it belonged rather to his own | dent of the Pennsylvania Railroad. Either | the chief of Lord Roberts's staff. It is in | presence of the Almighty Father, and feel a pastor at Canton or to the Ohio Con- the organization of which Mrs. Cassarr effect only a reiteration of the one of a few forth by expressions of impatience in some of utterly. the London and Colonial papers at the slow progress of the campaign. The stress id on the expenditure of horse power fully bears out the descriptions received from South the occupation of Bloemfontein; while the troops forward until they have received winter equipments, points to considerable delay, when t is considered that at least 125,000 men in the field have to be supplied with complete outfits. The Boers were evidently right when they said that the serious part of the campaign would only begin when the British army entered republican territory.

The passage of the southern commandos through the narrow strip of territory between appointments to the Military Academy Lord Roberts's army and the Basuto borders. for all. appears to have been a remarkable achievement, and could only have been accomplished by men full of resource. The British cavalry liminary measure, providing for a commis- and mounted troops sent out to intercept them nowhere came in contact with any of their detachments or patrols, while the pursuing forces seem to have been easily left benext session, it suggests interesting possi- hind. The place, Smalldeel, in the neighborhood of which Gen. Olivier's commando of 6,000 men is reported to have arrived, is on the north side of the Vet River at the junction of the railway from Winburg with the main line to Pretoria, and is under actual circumstances a point of strategic importance, being in the centre of the line stretching from Bloemhof to Ficksshould the scheme be complicated by at- burg at right angles across the ratiway. The tempting to educate in the same institution | maintenance of this line by the Boers is urgent clerks for the various departments of the so long as they continue to hold the Drakensberg passes, for once the left of it is turned by school would be specific and distinctly pro- a considerable British force, the passes will become untenable, their garrisons being exposed to attack from front and rear. Some fighting, therefore, may be looked for between Winburg and Ficksburg when the British seems to us clear that both the dignity and | forward movement begins. The object of Lord Roberts will be to obtain possession of the would be impaired by combining with it a | railway from Bethlehem through Harrismith to the Van Reenen's Pass, which would enable im to draw supplies for his army direct from Durban, which is only 249 miles from Harri-smith and 290 from Bethlehem as compared west, is in easy reach of Kierksdorp north of the Vaal, from where a railway runs to Johanesburg. There is no means of estimating the number of troops the Boers have now The confirmation of the cheering news of south of the Vaal, but they must be relatively considerable, having been reenforced both from Natal and Pretoria. The country between

The statement in one of the despatches that seconnoitring expedition on the Sunday's example of the practical sympathy the Boers are receiving from so many countries. The statement of a Bloemfontein correspondent that 15,000 foreigners had landed at Delagoa ated, but there is no doubt that they are recelving very substantial help from abroad.

The despatch of the Fourteenth Brigade, half | the political interests of Cape Cod for more than fortyof the Guards, and the Gordon Highlanders, rarily the process of dismemberment; for, as to form one centinuous thoroughfare, poor plagiarism of Herreshoff's original who appear to be in some force on the north

THE DOCTRINE OF ELECTION. Views of Correspondents Regarding It-Pre-

To THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: The disraised by the position of the pastor of Plymouth Church leads me to ask a question which I have often asked of divines, but with no satisfactory reply, viz.: If the doctrine of predestination is one of God's eternal decrees, where does the vicarious Atonement or the doctrine of it come in? Why was it instituted by the Eternal, as taught by those who believe in it, if men are to be saved or damned, as judged ages before this vicarious Atonement

EASTON, Pa., March 28. S. J. THOMPSON.

Dr. Hillis and His Supporters Universalists. TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: The plain avowals of Dr. Hillis and members of his church leave no doubt as to their place among the denominations. They are Universalists Let them take their place squarely with that body, and they will at least be entitled to the respect of the community for their candor. NEW YORK, March 28.

## Who Are the Elect? TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: Your edi-

torial of to-day on Dr. Hillis and his recent denunciation of that chapter of the Westminster Confession of Faith designated "Of God's Eternal Decree" leads me to ask a few questions. Would it be difficult for sincere and intelligent worshippers who are perplexed by the "veil," woven of Miltonianism, superstitions, tradtions and Church decrees. "which covers their understanding." to lift it, and "search the Scriptures" with direct and unbiased vision and with that divine illumination never withheld from earnest souls? Would not such search reveal, with regard to this terrible misapprehension about "the elect." that the lect (as has been clearly pointed out by able writers) are those tried, tested, found worthy. made perfect through suffering, passed through flery trials, yet not burned, who are chosen, elected, to judge the world, to administer Heaven's merciful, absolute, tender rod-of-iron, no-escape judgment? Those are the saints whom the Christ is to "bring with Him" to "judge the world." If they are to judge, whom are they to judge? If they are

but the elect are to be destroyed? Are they not to judge all who are remaining in error, according to the promise "all they that err shall come to understanding?" Will they not teach them "the way of holiness" and lead them into that "broad highway" to rightcousness promised for "that day," so that even the wayfaring man, though a fool, shall not err therein?

to reign, over whom are they to reign, if all

John the Baptist proclaimed of the Christ that "He taketh away the sin of the world." The Christ said of Himself: "I will draw all men unto Me." As Dr. Hillis and other preachers and writers show, is it not blasphemy to say that God has decreed that all but the elect are foreordained to eternal misery? Are not "the elect" simply the chosen because worthy and the comparatively few who shall, with the Christ, administer judgment and righteousness and mercy to all, leading, teaching, guiding them, in the full daylight of His reign, to holy, unselfish, godly, hapy lives

### MARGARETTE D. WARD. NEW YORK, March 28.

The Augustinian Logic Opposed. TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: I am Presbyterian, for in many respects I prefer that denomination, but I joined it after giving the examiners to understand that I did not believe in the doctrine of predestination. That doctrine is only "logical," so far as it goes. It forgets that while God is omniscient He is also omnipotent. He can both limit His power, making beings capable of successfully opposing Him up to a certain set limit, and also His foreknowledge of what that being will do, and of his final destiny. We, poor creatures, can never forget, but the Almighty can, and has said that He will "wipe our transgressions from His remembrance forever." A friend may forgive, but we always feel ashamed in his presence, for we know that he cannot help London, warning the British public not to remembering the injury we have done him, if it is mean, or deep. But it is a great comfort to me to feel that I can'dwell unabashed in the double gratitude in knowing that, while I cannot entirely forget my sin. He has

No, the Augustinian theology is not only monstrous in many respects; it is also absurd. It makes that "justice" in God which would be injustice in any other being in creation, and Africa of the great loss of cavalry and trans- all efforts on our part useless. "What is to be port animals in the operations culminating in | will be" is its only logical outcome, from the flying of a kite to the cutting of an infant's reference to the impossibility of pushing the throat by some burglar to stop its cries. It has seized upon, exaggerated and perverted the meaning of an illustration of St. Paul, and so made God a selfish, horrible tyrant, intent only on His own "glory," instead of the loving. lovely and most lovable Father all the rest of Scripture shows Him to be. Not a weak Father, indeed, for from cover to cover His Word proclaims that He will punish, and at last utterly destroy the unrepentant guilty. I disagree with Dr. Hillis as to final salvation W. B. S. TAYLOR.

## The Greatest of All Questions.

To the Editor of The Sun-Sir: I read with much interest in to-day's SUN your editorial "Of God's Eternal Decree." Much of truth was told as to the relation of the Presbyterian Church and its clergy to the Westminster Confession of Faith. It seems beyond question that the doctrine must be eliminated from the Church articles or a rigid stand taken in favor of it. People generally have little faith in any organization, religious or political, that does not stand by declared principles; yet we have become used to just such professions

without practice. But what does THE SUN think of the situation? Should your readers stand in fear of that everiasting place of torment so much preached about, or may they calmly believe in an all-wise and all-kind God who seeks not vengeance, and who in a future life as well as this will pity the erring?

This is the paramount question before mankind. So many dogmas and creeds are thrust upon us that we are confused and bewildered. while absolute fear fills many hearts. NEW YORK, March 28.

# Teachers Who Are Not Educators.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: Your report of the interview between the Mayor and 2 000 public school teachers, mostly women, would seem to indicate that it is not surprising that the parents of many thousand children so strongly object to have them brought up by such uneducated people that they prefer to build and support schools of their own while helping to pay the salaries of these educators. The public schools neglect the very important branches of respect for superiors and parents and for the aged, mildness, modesty and gentieness, especially for the female sex. Even the pagan Chinese find fault with this much more than Christian parents. It is religion that is wanting to soften the character. NEW YORK, March 28.

"Cape Cod Lingo" Question. TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN Sec. In reference to letters of "Excilis" and his "Cape Cod Lingo, may I be permitted to say that from a somewhat extended acquaintance in Cape Cod. particularly in Plymouth and Barnstable counties. I have failed to meet any of the peculiar class of people to which he refers, and I think I can be supported in the state. ment that there is nowhere in the United States a people who are, as a whole, better educated and more correct in the use of the English language than those of "Cape Cod." In education, commerce and all that has tended to make the nation great "Cape Cod men" have ever been in the forefront.

From a letter received to-day from a well-known resident of the cape, I would make the following extract:

"I have been actively engaged in busines the political interests of Cape Con for more than forty five years. I am intimately acquainted with all sections of the cape and all classes of people. I never heard from any person nor have I ever seen in any communication the terms used by Excilis' of Hyanis until I saw the articles in THE SUN. There is no such language in use on the Cape." T. J. O. BROOKLYN March 20,

DIVISION OF THE PHILIPPINES. Gen. Otis to Command-The Division Composed of Three Departments.

WASHINGTON, March 29.-Secretary Root made public this afternoon his order creating the Military Division of the Philippines.

as follows: "By direction of President, the Department of Pacific is discontinued and a military division, to be known as the Division of the Philippines, comprising all the islands conceded to the United States by Spain by the treaty of Paris, ratified April 11, 1869, is created, under con mand of Major-Gen. Elwell S. Otis, U.S. V., with headquarters in the city of Manila, who, in addition to the command of the troops in the division, will continue to exercise the authority of military government of the Philippine Islands, the division to be composed of the following departments:

Department of Northern Luzon, to include all that part of the island of Luzon north of the provinces of Manila, Morong and Infanta, the same being the provinces of Abra, Bontoc, Benguet, Bataan, Bulacan, Cagayan, Ilocos, Benguet, Bataan, Bulacan, Cagayan, Le-Norte, Ilocos, Sura, La Sabela, de Luzon, Le-pento, La Unton, Nuova Vizcava, Nuova Ecija, Principe, Pangasinan, Pampanga, Tarlac, Zambaloes, and all the Islands in the Philip-pine Archipelago north of Manila Bay and the provinces above named. Major-tien, Arthur MacArthur, U.S. V., is assigned to the com-

pine Archipelago north of alimina has provinces above named. Major-tien. Arthur MacArthur. U.S. V., is assigned to the command of this department.

"Department of Southern Luzon, to include all the remaining part of the island of Luzon, the same including the following provinces: Albay, Batangas, Camarines, Norte, Camarines Sur, Cavité, Infanta, La Laguan, Manila and Morong, and all islands of the Philippines Archipelago which lie south of the south line of the Department of Northern Luzon, as above described, including the island of Polillo, and north of a line passing south-astwardly through Wess Passof Apoto the twelfth rarallel of north latitude, then easterly along said parallel 124 degrees, 10 minutes east of Greenwich, but including the entire island of Masbate; thence northerly through San Bernandino straits, Major-Gen, John C. Bates, U.S. V., is assigned to the command of this department.

"Department of the Visayas, to include all islands south of the southern line of the Department of Southern Luzon, and east of longitude 121 degrees 45 minutes east of direction of the Usayas, to include all islands east of the straits of Surigao. Brig. Gen. Robert P. Hughes, U.S. V., is assigned to the command of this department.

"Department of Mindanao and Jolo, to include all the remaining islands of the Philippine Archipelago. Brig. Gen. William A. Kobbe, U.S. V., is assigned to the command of this department.

"The Division Commander will designate the places for the several department headquarters, and will also assign the necessary staff officers and make such distribution of troops as in his judgment will best meet the requirements of the service in the division."

### SOUTH AFRICAN NATIVES. Basutos Employed by the British on Mili-

tary Railroads. The British are employing a large number of Basutos to repair and lay the railroads in the Orange Free State that are essential to the advance of the army and the maintenance of communications with the bases of supplies. Thus the natives are now to participate, for the first time on a large scale, in work that is related to

The Basutos have no friendly sentiments for the Orange Free State Boers who incorporated in their republic a part of Basutoland. The Xulus have always hated the Transvaal Boers, with whom they had many a hard fight in what is now Natal and by whom the Matabele branch of the Zulus were driven north of the Crocodile River. The Basutos and Zulus are the strongest native elements in South Africa. These tribes supply a large part of the manual labor throughout South Africa, but their efficiency fails below that of the average American negro. They have not reached the same plane of civilization, their wants are fewer and more, easily supplied, and after a term of service they usually wish to return to their homes for a long period of idleness; so it has been found necessary to supplement them by the importation of thousands of Indian coolies. Still, they are by far the largest element in the labor market. Sixty thousand of them were at work in the Witwatersrand gold fields when the war began; all the labor in the diamond mines is suppled by the natives and they are widely scattered at service through the towns and ever the sheep and cattle farms.

They want a pin sticker in the Buffalo Athletic Club. I would like to get that place."

"They want a pin sticker in the Buffalo Athletic Club. I would like to get that place."

"That's my long sult, too," said Erne. "I tell you what we do. You and I run a race to the Athletic club house and the one who gets that have given a good start, and a merry sprint ensued. Erne arriving at the corner of Mohawk and Washington streets a corner of Mohawk and Washington streets a term of service they usually wish to return to their homes for a long period of idleness; so it has been found necessary to supplement them by the importance of the product Zulus have always hated the Transvaal Boers.

and over the sheep and cattle farms.

They are prisoners as long as they work in the diamond mines, for one of the rigorous measures taken to prevent diamond stealing is to keep the native laborers in a compound from which they never emerge during their term of service except to march, under escort, to and from their work. But the South African natives are progressing and their value as a factor in the development of the land is growing. BICYCLE TALK HUSHED.

For the Good of the Trade It Should Be

Revived. From the Buffalo Commercial "There is not enough talk, not enough argu ment, about the different points of construction in wheels nowadays, and the dealers are to blame for it." This was said by a man of many years' experience as a rider who is himself in the trade now. He continued: "You working woman, depending upon the fancy feather do not hear riders arguing over the different trade for my livelihood, permit me to enter my protest parts of their wheels and contending for this

them wheels. The salesmen do not go into details and explain every part and give the women. reasons why, as they formerly did. It was the points they obtained from dealers that kept the mean that no fancy feathers could be manufactured

reasons why, as they formerly did. It was the points they obtained from dealers that kept the riders arguing. It may sound strange to say that salesmen do not talk enough, but, in my estimation, such is the fact.

"The salesmen have wearied of dilating upon the relative merits of forgings and stampings of different styles of joints and binders, of the chain's line of puil, of sprockets large and small, their share and wearing qualities, of two and three point and journal bearings, of long and short wheel bases. They seem to think that all riders understand these matters or do not care about hearing the proor con of them, but this is a mistake. They seem to know the reason why and to argue is an innate human propensity. There are a lot of new riders of last year and this who do not understand anything about a wheel. They would be glad to do so, but the salesmen do not volunteer to fill them up, and newcomers in cycling now feel a bit ashamed to confess ignorance. Now, the point I want to make is that the discussion of such things in the house and on the road is what held the interest and made enthusiasm. When tolks talked wheels they rode more. The dealer to be made up for milinery purposes. As a matter of fact, manufactured feathers are made from the plumage of edities to suppose that song birds are killed for the purpose of supplying feathers to be made up for milinery purposes. As a matter of fact, manufactured feathers are made from the plumage of edities being and fowl, that is to say, when birds and fowl, that is to suppose of edithe birds and fowl, that is to say, when terest and made enthusasm. When tolks talked wheels they rode more. The dealers feel glad that the day of 'talking points' has passed. They should feel sorry. There are as many 'talking points' on the wheels of 1800 as ever, and they should be talked. It has not been settled yet just what is best in bearings or what is the perfect medium in a wheel base length.

or what is the perfect medium in a wheel base length.

"If all such matters were agreed upon, every maker would built alike. There have been tremendous improvements in factory methods and processes, and riders have not kept pace with them. A man who loves a wheel, like one who loves a horse, wants to know its anatomy, or enough of it to understand and appreciate its fine points. If riders were kept better posted by the salesmen, they would be more interested in their mounts, and there would be more enthusiasm. The advancing popularity of the chainless has of course dampened the discussion of chains and sprockets, but the chainless introduces many nice questions on the relative merits of construction, while the conster brake has introduced more. The riders should partake of this discussion. The best liteas for improvement have come from riders. best ideas for improvement have come from riders. They should be kept taking. For the sake of the riders themselves, I want to see the discussion of mechanical points kept going, and for the sake of the trade it should be. The riders who understand and argue are the best customers. The men who adhere to old-time methods and give arguments for their constructional features are the best salesmen.

### What One Boy Ate. From the Cincinnati Enquirer.

Evansylld E. Ind., March 26.—George Day, a colored boy, was arraigned in police court this morning, charged with breaking in a fruit store. He almitted he ate seventy-flve bananas and fifty-three oranges, besides three pounds of nurs, all in three hours' time. He is only 14 years old.

## Pawned Church Property.

From the Denter Frening Post. When the sexton opened the Norwegian Latheran Churco for prayer meeting last night, he found the chairs, pews, organ and even hymn books gone. He discovered the missing articles in a local pawnshop, where thieves got \$50 on them. They represented themselves as deacons eager to raise funds for the church. which they said was in financial distress.

### Politics Begin to Boll in Alaska. From the Portland Oregonian.

WASHINGTON, March 17 .- The people of Sitka, Alaska, have at last been aroused, and are up in arms against the proposition brought forward by a gratulate you. number of the Alaskan representatives who were in Washington this winter to move the capital of be anywhere at '4.30 precisely.' Yours mas fulla-Alaska from Sitka to Juneou.

# FLAGS FOR THE PHILIPPINES

Five Hundred to Be Sent by Lafayette Post, G. A. R.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: Inspired by the letter from Mr. J. R. Duryce, published in THE SUN. March 17, and encouraged by your editorial of March 18, both in reference to the need of United States flags for distribution among the inhabitants of the Philippines. Lafayette Post of this city, which I have the honor to command, communicated immediately with the War Department at Washington, D. C., asking for an opinion on the subject, which resulted in an earnest, favorable expression and the approval of a shipment of 500 bunting flags, 4x6 feet, aboard the transport Sumner for distribution among the native officials of the different towns and villages of the island of Luzon.

There may appear a discrepancy between the sort of flags requested and the shipment made, the request being for size 2x3 feet. apparently for a wholesale distribution among the native population, and the shipment made being 4x6 feet for delivery to native officials when appointed and for hoisting over public rather than private buildings.

The whole subject was fully discussed at a The whole subject was fully discussed at a personal interview between the officials of the War Department and myself, when it was concluded to make the donation as above described.

Lafayette Post had already contributed 1,000

Larayette Post had already contributed 1,000 flags of the dimensions mentioned for the schools of Puerto Rico, Hawaii and the Philippines, but this later appeal seemed so earnest and practicable it was deemed advisable to continue the contributions to the extent mentioned. would have afforded the post much pleasure

It would have afforded the post much pleasure to have enlarged this gift to any extent, if it could have been done without detriment to other work in charge. Its "loyalty" is recognized as a public benefit and is cheerfully manifested to a degree consistent with its "charity," which cannot be neglected. It will be esteemed a favor by my post if you will assist us in obtaining most definite information through your correspondents in the Philippines upon the reception of the flags sent and the benefit derived. If our gift has been insufficient, or if it would have been wiser to have sent a much larger number of smaller flags instead for a wider distribution, or if it will be still desirable to supplement the donation made in any way, such information as you can bring us through your medium of gathering news will be welcome. Perhaps later on, after we receive the full information, with perhaps the indorsement of it by Major-Gen. Otis, we may be in a situation, after consulting with you, to arrange a plan for a contribution large enough to meet the fullest demand.

Allan C. Barkwell, Commander.

New York, March 28.

### HOW ERNE STARTED.

Won a Foot Race, Got a Position as Pla Sticker and Became Champion.

From the Buffalo Commercial. It was ten years ago this month when an exciting foot race took place in Buffalo, and the winner thereof is to-day the lightweight cham-

pion of the world--Frank Erne. In 1891 Erne was one of the numerous youngsters who roam about the city, but was always willing to work, providing the task was an agreeable one. He had been engaged with Barnd & Geiger in the plumbing business, but this rough work was not in accordance with Erne's elevated notions. It was in March of that year when Erne was sitting in the barbershop at the corner of Lemon and Virginia streets, with several friends, among them

that day.

It was a tough job, sticking pins for twelve and fourteen hours a day for \$2 per week, but Erne kept at it faithfuily. At that time Jimmy Connors, who had retired as featherweight champion of the country, was engaged in running the billiard and boxing apartments of the Buffalo A. C., and he took a liking to Erne, When the bantam tournament was conducted Buffalo A. C., and He took was conducted When the bantam tournament was conducted Connors took hold of Erne, and soon had the Connors took hold of Erne, and soon had the youngster on a fair way to success. Erne von, and his history is well known from that time on.
Everding to-day is a tall, husky individual, and yesterday he said: "Perhaps, if I had

## beaten Erne that day I would be heavyweight champion now." MR. HOAR'S SONG-BIRD BILL.

Letter From a Working Woman Who TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: As & against the bill now before the United States Senate or that feature the way they formerly did. known as the Hoar bill, which makes it a crime to They are just as much interested in the me- use the plumage of birds as trimming for hats. chanical arguments as ever, and just as willing | doubt if Senator Hoar and those who sympathize to argue them as ever, but they are not fur- | with him, including the members of the Audubon So nished the material by the tradesmen who sell | ciety, appreciate the distress which would follow the passage of this bill among thousands of working

If the Hoar bill were to become a law, it would

needlessly deprive thousands of working women of the means of making a livelihood, I believe that,

just to humanity as well. In the fancy feather and the ailled trades there must be fully five thousand women in this city alone who would be deprived of employment by the passage workers commanding good wages, and are thus enabled to support their families in whole or in part. In their zeal for the profession of the birds the women of the Audubon Society seem to have overlooked the wants and necessities of many of their less favored sisters. It remains to be seen whether the men in Congress will be equally neglectful. What the work ing women ask is that some consideration shall be shown to them as well as to the birds. Let me add that there are a great many women who object to wearing feathers which are made from the plumage of fowl which come from their tables, who will wear Persian lamb garments, which can only be obtained through the greatest cruelty

I repeat, make stringent laws to protect the song birds, but do not destroy an industry whereby thou sands of working women can earn their daily bread.
HELEN L. DEVINE.

## Knows Whistler Now.

34 EIGHTH AVENUE, New York, March 29.

From the Boston Liaily Advertises PARIS, March 5 .- A commissioner representing he American art section of a certain exposition was to arrive in Pans a while ago to arrange with American painters and sculptors resident there for their contributions. Wishing to be brisk and innesslike, he wrote ahead to several artists statistic that he would be in Paris on a certain day, and set certain notel, and naming an hour at which he repo each man would call upon him. On his orl for the day might have been found (the malle McNeil Whistler and the hour "4 30 precise. note he received is worthy of the author of the The Gentle Art of Making Enemies "

"DEAR SIR. I have received your letter appour ing that you will arrive in Paris of the -th. I col

"I nave never been able and never shall be able J. MCN. WINSTLER